



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/079 331 Confirm. No.: 7963

Inventor: Dieter Girlich

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TC/A.U.: 1725

Examiner: Kevin P. Kerns

Docket No.: 02-013

Customer No.: 24124

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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action of May 21, 2003 please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 7 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 10 of this paper.